

Amendment

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) Protective device for an occupant of a vehicle comprising an inflatable cushion having first and second portions, the first portion being above the second portion when the vehicle is upright, and in which inflation of the second portion commences before inflation of the first portion.
2. (original) Protective device according to claim 1 in which the second portion comprises a material that decreases in length when inflated so as to create tension.
3. (original) Protective device according to claim 2 in which the length-decreasing material is distributed substantially uniformly and continuously throughout the second portion.
4. (original) Protective device according to claim 1 in which the first portion comprises at least one inflatable node adapted, when inflated, to be positioned at approximately head level of the occupant.
5. (original) Protective device according to claim 4 in which the first portion further comprises uninflated material adjacent the at least one inflatable node.

6. (original) Protective device according to claim 1 further comprising an inflator connected to the vehicle and to the second portion and capable of moving as the second portion inflates.

7.-11. cancelled

12. (original) Protective device for an occupant of a vehicle comprising an inflatable cushion having first and second portions, and in which (i) inflation of the second portion commences before inflation of the first portion and (ii) the first portion comprises at least one inflatable node adapted, when inflated, to be positioned so as to provide torso protection for the occupant.